

Reasons Humbly offered to the Consideration of the Parliament, for the
stricter prohibiting the Importation of White and Painted Earthen Ware
into England from parts beyond the Seas.

1. **T**his is a considerable Manufacture concerned in things of necessary use which we can hardly be without; and therefore with all humble Submission, requisite to have them made at home, and not depend upon Foreigners, especially being now brought to that perfection, that in the Houses already set up for this purpose, as good of all sorts of these Wares are made, as in any parts beyond the Seas, and in quantity more than sufficient for the service of this Nation, as hath been made out to His Majesty and Privy-Council.

2. The Dutch are chiefly concerned as to the bringing this sort of Merchandise in great quantities, and sell to loss, that they may discourage and beat down this Manufacture here.

3. The Materials whereof these Wares are made, are Clay, Kelp, Lead and Tin, and are all of our own growth, and consequently we lose the opportunity of expending our own Native Commodities, the last three not to be had any where, as conceived, but in England.

4. The setting up of this Manufacture here, hath made the Dutch fall in their price half in half, with low Rates they will continue no longer, than till they by pulling down this Manufacture here, have ingrossed it wholly to themselves, which is their only aim.

5. That for this Commodity Imported by the Dutch, they export great quantities of our Coyn in Specie, and our Clay, not only to make Earthen Ware, but to employ it in making Woollen Cloth: That Clay serving for that purpose instead of Fullers-Earth.

6. That this Commodity taking up great Bulk, whereby opportunity is taken to defraud his Majesty of His Customs and Forfeitures; it being usual in Chests and other things, wherein they put their Ware, to put Black Cloth, Silks, Spices, Laces, and other Commodities of value prohibited, and by such like frauds are better enabled to sell these Wares at an under value to the ruine of Tradesmen.

7. That the setting up of Manufactures is of the greatest use and advantage that can be in a Nation, towards the bringing in People, and employing those that are there in lawful and Beneficial Exercises, whereby they are enabled to maintain themselves and Families.

8. That by this Manufacture already Hundreds of Families are maintained, and many poor people set at work, and especially poor Tradesmen and Labourers, as Brick-layers, Carpenters, Masons, Millwrights, Coopers, Smiths, Water-men, Barge-men, &c. and poor Children, from Eight Years of Age and upwards, that otherwise must be a Charge upon their Parents, or their Parishes, are hereby employed, and kept till they are big enough to be Apprentices to Trades; likewise all old Men, and Maimed Soldiers that are a charge to the Parish, may be employed herein: And care is taken for them in case of Sicknes.

9. That it cost the present Managers of this Work much Expence, almost to their ruin, to bring it to this perfection. And that the Dutch had the Knowldg of perfecting this Art from the English, their now chief Work-men being English, and the Importation thereof, if not prohibited, the Artificers will be utterly ruined, and other His Majesties Subjects therein employed, brought to penury and want.

10. That his Majesty upon due consideration had of the Premises, hath issued out His Royal Proclamation to prohibit the Importation of the said Earthen Wares: And it is Humbly Submitted and Desired of the Parliament, That they will be pleased as formerly Parliaments in like Cases have done, and (upon Humble Address and Desires) to pass an Act for that purpose in the Parliament, As in 1 R. 3. 12. 3 Ed. 4. 4. 5 Eliz. 7. &c.

By which Statutes the Importation of all painted Wares of what kind or nature soever, are already prohibited, upon which Statutes his Majesties two Royal Proclamations prohibiting the Importation of all painted Earthen Wares as well White as Blew, or any Colours, are grounded.

So that what is now desired, is no more than by Law is already done, only those Laws are ancient, and some differences have arisen, whether White Earthen Ware Glazed, be a Colour, or Painted Wares prohibited by the Laws aforesaid, which now is designed to be prevented for the future, and the clearing this point can be no prejudice to the Kings Revenue, but an advantage: for although by the words now desired in the Act, White be esteemed a Colour, yet this Act excepts China, which is painted Earthen Ware, and now prohibited and subject to be seized, and that will more than trebly counterail the Kings loss in prohibiting White Ware if it were not before absolutely prohibited: but that it is so hath been adjudged by a trial of Law in his Majesties Court of Exchequer.

And as for Beaten and Leaf-Gold and Silver made up into papers for Painters use, the same is also expressly prohibited by the Statute of 1 R. 3. Cap. 12. and the other Statutes aforesaid.

Peruant whereunto Orders have been Printed and sent to the Custom-house about a year and half since for seizing the same.

And it is humbly pray'd, that the Words may run as followeth:

Beaten Gold, and Beaten Silver, Copper, and other Metals wrought into Papers for Painters, &c.

For now Foreigners beat Copper and other Metals, and by poyslonous things Colour it like Gold and Silver, make it into Papers, send it into England, where often it is used by Apothecaries in Medicaments to the indangering Mens lives; there is some of it ready to be produced, that hath lately been seized, and the Venders now under Prosecution.

For Glass, it never was prohibited before: the Prosecutors of the Bill for Prohibition of Foriegn Manufacturries are not concerned therein: therefore humbly pray, the Bill may not be lost by their being included, but rather that it may be left out.